

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 PC-04 DRC-01 SSO-00 EB-11 /168 W

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P 191625Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3618

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 3294

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NG, NI

SUBJECT: FMG AND NIGER COUP

REF: LAGOS 3241

SUMMARY: IN NOTE TO GON, GOWON HAS REAFFIRMED FMG NON-
INTERFERENCE POLICY AND ENTERED PLEA THAT DIORI COME TO NO
HARM. END SUMMARY

1. AS ANTICIPATED REFTTEL, FMG AMBASSADOR TO NIGER KONTAGORA
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RETURNED TO NIAMEY APRIL 18 BEARING NOTE FROM GOWON TO

COL. KOUNTCHE. NOTE CONSTITUTED REPLY TO MESSAGE BROUGHT TO GOWON PREVIOUS DAY BY GON AMBASSADOR TO NIGER LOUTOU.

2. GOWON REPLY "REAFFIRMED NIGERIA'S POLICY OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES AND NOTED COL. KOUNTCHE'S ASSURANCE THAT MEMBERS OF FORMER GOVERNMENT ARE SAFE AND WELL." GOWON APPEALED TO NEW REGIME "TO ENSURE THAT FORMER PRESIDENT DIORI AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY COME TO NO HARM IN WIDER INTERESTS OF AFRICAN UNITY."

3. ACCOUNT OF MADAM DIORI'S DEATH REPORTED PARA 6 NIAMEY 1143 GAINING CURRENCY AMONG FMG OFFICIALS. APRIL 19 DAILY TIMES CARRIES SIMILAR ACCOUNT BASED ON NEWSMEN'S INTERVIEW WITH COMMANDER ZINDER GARRISON HAROUNA, WHO ADDED FILLIP THAT HE BELIEVED IT POSSIBLE THAT MADAM DIORI WAS KILLED BY STRAY BULLET FROM PRESIDENTIAL GUARD RATHER THAN SHOT BY ARMY ATTACKER.

4. COMMENT: EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONFIRMS FMG READINESS DO BUSINESS WITH NEW GON. AS NOTED REFTTEL, CLOSENESS OF RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES REMAINS TO BE DETERMINED ON BASIS EVOLVING GON POLICIES.
REINHARDT

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Message Attributes

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

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